

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving information identifying a payment account having at least one of an account-level and a corporate -level restriction on use;

identifying an earlier ~~first~~ authorization request that involved said payment account, where said ~~first~~ earlier authorization request was declined for a prior previous purchase transaction for failing to comply with said at least one of an account-level and a corporate -level restriction on use; and

creating a manual authorization record ~~associated with~~ for said payment account and said purchase transaction using information from said ~~first~~ earlier authorization request, said manual authorization record temporarily overriding said at least one of an account-level and a corporate -level restriction on use and allowing approval of a second authorization request involving said payment account and said purchase transaction.

2.(Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said payment account is associated with a purchasing card issued to a purchasing entity having a program administrator.

3.(Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said manual authorization record is created in response to a request by said program administrator.

4.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said payment account is associated with at least one of MCC, account-level, and corporate-level, and standard industrial code (SIC) authorization controls.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said first authorization request is declined based on a failure of said transaction to comply with at least one of said MCC, said account-level, ~~and~~ said corporate-level, and said SIC authorization controls associated with said payment account.

6.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said manual authorization record operates to override at least one of said MCC, said account-level, ~~and~~ said corporate-level, and said SIC authorization controls associated with said payment account.

7.(Currently Amended) An authorization method, comprising:
receiving a request from a vendor to authorize a transaction involving a payment account identifier, said transaction including terms;
confirming that the payment account identified by said payment account identifier is open;
confirming that a manual authorization record is not associated with said payment account identifier; and
after confirming that a manual authorization record is not associated with said payment account identifier, authorizing said transaction if all of a plurality of account-level or corporate-level ~~controls~~ restrictions on use associated with said payment account identifier are met by said terms of said transaction.

8. (Currently Amended) An authorization method, comprising:
receiving a request from a vendor to authorize a transaction involving a payment account identifier, said transaction including terms;
confirming that the payment account identified by said payment account identifier is open; and

prior to determining whether said payment account identifier is associated with one or more corporate-level ~~or~~ and an account-level restriction on use controls, confirming that a manual authorization record is associated with said payment account identifier; and

authorizing said transaction if said transaction terms satisfy requirements of said manual authorization record.

9.(Currently Amended) An authorization system, comprising:

means for receiving information for identifying a payment account;

means for identifying a first authorization request involving said payment account having at least one of an account-level and corporate –level restriction on use, said first authorization request was declined for a purchase transaction; and

means for creating a manual authorization record associated with said payment account and said transaction using information from said first authorization request, said manual authorization record allowing approval of a second authorization request involving said payment account and said purchase transaction.

10.(Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a processor; and[[,]]

a memory in communication with said processor and storing instructions for operating said processor to:

receive an earlier authorization request message, said earlier authorization request message identifying a payment account having at least one of an

account-level and a corporate –level restriction on use and identifying terms of a prior transaction;

declining said earlier authorization request message based on a failure of said terms of said prior transaction to comply with said at least one of an account-level and a corporate –level restriction on use~~one or more account limitations associated with said payment account;~~

establishing a manual authorization record for said payment account and said purchase transaction including information from said ~~first~~ earlier authorization request message; and

authorizing a subsequent authorization request message associated with said payment account to temporarily override said at least one of an account-level and a corporate –level restriction on use by comparing terms of ~~said~~ subsequent transaction with said manual authorization record.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said payment account is associated with a purchasing card issued to a purchasing entity having a program administrator.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said manual authorization record is created in response to a request by said program administrator.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said payment account is associated with at least one of a merchant category code (MCC), account-level, and corporate-level, and standard industrial code (SIC) authorization controls.

14.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said first authorization request is declined based on a failure of said prior transaction to comply with said at least one of ~~said MCC, said account-level, and said corporate-level, and~~ SIC authorization controls.

15.(Canceled)